

our great centers of education. So well did they act their individual parts that many of the reverend clergy were deeply impressed, thus showing conclusively that the work of the Sisters bore fruit worthy the praise that was freely given.

The following day, at ten o'clock, the large and beautiful church witnessed a ceremony that heretofore had never taken place within hundreds of miles. The procession, headed by cross-bearer and acolytes, was the most imposing ever witnessed. The students of the college, the pupils of the academy with the Sisters, followed by the religious to the number of thirty or forty, after whom, in order of rank, came the visiting clergy, secular and regular. The Abbot-elect, robed in rich gold vestments, with the Rt. Rev. Frowenus Conrad, O.S.B., of Conception, Mo., on his right, and the Rt. Rev. Ignatius Conrad, O.S.B., of Spielerville, Ark., on his left, moved onward in deep recollection, followed by Rt. Rev. Bishop Dunne. His Lordship, the Rt. Rev. Theophile Meerschaert, (over whom was borne a richly embroidered canopy by four of the religious) surrounded by the sacred ministers of the Mass, closed the long line, which was immediately followed by the largest gathering of people that had ever congregated at the monastery church. The solemn pontifical High Mass was then begun, the chanting being pure Gregorian. Rev. Adalbert Haffner, O.S.B., presided at the organ. The following clergy filled the offices at the holy sacrifice: Celebrant, Rt. Rev. Theo. Meerschaert, D.D.; assistant priest, Very Rev. J. H. Tihen, V.-G., Wichita, Kas.; deacon, Rev. Ildaphonse Lanslots, O.S.B., Oklahoma City, Okla.; subdeacon, Rev. Wm. Ospital, O.S.B., Purcell, Ind. Ter.; deacons of honor, Revs. Wm. H. Ketcham of Muskogee, and Frk. Hall, of Chicashee, Ind. Ter. Rt. Rev. Ed. J. Dunne, D.D.; chaplains, Rev. T. K. Crowley of

Denison, Tex., and Rev. A. Heuchemer of Gainesville, Tex. Rt. Rev. Frowenus Conrad, O.S.B.; chaplains, Rev. Felix DeGrasse, O.S.B., Shawnee, Okla. and Maillary Cassal, O.S.B. Rt. Rev. Ignatius Conrad, O.S.B.; chaplains, Rev. Germanus Guillaume, O.S.B., of El Reno, Okla., and Rev. Blasius Harichabalet, O.S.B.

The letters of appointment, etc., from the Holy See were then read by the Deacon, to which the Rev. Abbot Thomas responded, promising to faithfully discharge the duties about to be laid upon him.

Immediately after the Gospel the Rt. Rev. Ignatius Conrad, O.S.B., preached the sermon, taking for his text the words "*Hæc dies, quam facit Dominus, exultemus et lætemur in ea.*"

The preacher depicted in glowing words the heroic courage of the first missionary who came to these wilds nearly twenty-five years ago, the Rt. Rev. Isidore Robot, O.S.B. How amid trials and privations with a few devoted and tried helpers he had laid the foundation of what is to-day the Abbey of Sacred Heart.

Have we not reason, then, my dear friends, to rejoice in this day. For you, my dear people, that the sons of St. Benedict are among you; not only for yourselves, but especially for your children, grounding them in the knowledge of the Faith and the practice of the virtues.

So also do we rejoice that as sons of so noble a father and great saint we may be able to aid the Church in her warfare against sin; that from out the quiet retreat of this abbey the now newly blessed Abbot, Rt. Rev. Thomas Duperon, may send to his bishop priests trained in the spirit of prayer and accustomed to missionary duties. Yes, and beyond these precincts will their work and prayer be experienced. The good bishops around about will seek among the sons of St. Benedict men